

**U.S. District Court  
District of Columbia (Washington, DC)  
CIVIL DOCKET FOR CASE #: 1:18-cv-01464-TNM**

NATIONAL STUDENT LEGAL DEFENSE NETWORK v.  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
Assigned to: Judge Trevor N. McFadden  
Cause: 05:552 Freedom of Information Act

Date Filed: 06/21/2018  
Jury Demand: None  
Nature of Suit: 895 Freedom of  
Information Act  
Jurisdiction: U.S. Government Defendant

**Plaintiff**

**NATIONAL STUDENT LEGAL  
DEFENSE NETWORK**

represented by **Robyn K. Bitner**  
NATIONAL STUDENT LEGAL  
DEFENSE NETWORK  
1015 15th Street NW  
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*PRO HAC VICE*  
*ATTORNEY TO BE NOTICED*

**Daniel Alexander McGrath**  
AMERICAN OVERSIGHT  
1030 15th Street, NW  
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Email: [daniel.mcgrath@americanoversight.org](mailto:daniel.mcgrath@americanoversight.org)  
*ATTORNEY TO BE NOTICED*

V.

**Defendant**

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF  
EDUCATION**

represented by **Wyneva Johnson**  
U.S. ATTORNEY'S OFFICE FOR THE  
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
555 Fourth Street, NW  
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*LEAD ATTORNEY*  
*ATTORNEY TO BE NOTICED*

Date Filed	#	Docket Text
06/21/2018	<u>1</u>	COMPLAINT against U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION ( Filing fee \$ 400 receipt number 0090-5546290) filed by NATIONAL STUDENT LEGAL DEFENSE NETWORK. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Civil Cover Sheet, # <u>2</u> Summons, # <u>3</u> Summons, # <u>4</u> Summons)(McGrath, Daniel) (Entered: 06/21/2018)
06/21/2018		Case Assigned to Judge Trevor N. McFadden. (zmd) (Entered: 06/22/2018)
06/22/2018	<u>2</u>	LCvR 7.1 CERTIFICATE OF DISCLOSURE of Corporate Affiliations and Financial Interests by AMERICAN OVERSIGHT (McGrath, Daniel) (Entered: 06/22/2018)
06/22/2018	<u>3</u>	MOTION for Leave to Appear Pro Hac Vice :Attorney Name- Robyn K. Bitner, :Firm- National Student Legal Defense Network, :Address- 1015 15th Street NW, Suite 600, Washington, DC 20005. Phone No. - 202-734-7495. Filing fee \$ 100, receipt number 0090-5550620. Fee Status: Fee Paid. by AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

		(Attachments: # <u>1</u> Declaration, # <u>2</u> Text of Proposed Order)(McGrath, Daniel) (Entered: 06/22/2018)
06/25/2018	<u>4</u>	SUMMONS (3) Issued Electronically as to U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, U.S. Attorney and U.S. Attorney General (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Notice and Consent) (zmd) (Entered: 06/25/2018)
06/25/2018		MINUTE ORDER granting the <u>3</u> Motion for Leave to Appear Pro Hac Vice of Attorney Robyn K. Bitner. Counsel shall promptly register for this Court's CM/ECF system. Signed by Judge Trevor N. McFadden on 6/25/2018. (lctnm2) (Entered: 06/25/2018)
06/25/2018	<u>5</u>	STANDING ORDER Establishing Procedures for Cases Before Judge Trevor N. McFadden. The parties are hereby ORDERED to read and comply with the directives in the attached standing order. Signed by Judge Trevor N. McFadden on 6/25/2018. (lctnm2) (Entered: 06/25/2018)
07/18/2018	<u>6</u>	RETURN OF SERVICE/AFFIDAVIT of Summons and Complaint Executed as to the United States Attorney. Date of Service Upon United States Attorney on 6/25/2018. Answer due for ALL FEDERAL DEFENDANTS by 7/25/2018. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Exhibit)(McGrath, Daniel) (Entered: 07/18/2018)
07/18/2018	<u>9</u>	RETURN OF SERVICE/AFFIDAVIT of Summons and Complaint Executed on United States Attorney General. Date of Service Upon United States Attorney General 07/09/2018, RETURN OF SERVICE/AFFIDAVIT of Summons and Complaint Executed. U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION served on 7/2/2018. (See Docket Entry <u>6</u> to view document) (jf) (Entered: 07/25/2018)
07/23/2018	<u>7</u>	NOTICE of Appearance by Wyneva Johnson on behalf of All Defendants (Johnson, Wyneva) (Entered: 07/23/2018)
07/24/2018	<u>8</u>	ANSWER to Complaint by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION.(Johnson, Wyneva) (Entered: 07/24/2018)
07/25/2018		MINUTE ORDER. Before the Court are a complaint and an answer in this FOIA case. It is hereby ORDERED that the parties shall meet and confer and file a Joint Status Report proposing a schedule for proceeding in this matter. The schedule should address, among other things, the status of Plaintiff's FOIA request, the anticipated number of documents responsive to Plaintiff's FOIA request, the anticipated date(s) for release of the documents requested by Plaintiff, whether a motion for an Open America stay is likely in this case, whether a Vaughn index will be required in this case, and a briefing schedule for dispositive motions, if required. The parties shall file the schedule on or before August 16, 2018. Signed by Judge Trevor N. McFadden on 7/25/2018. (lctnm2) (Entered: 07/25/2018)
07/25/2018		Set/Reset Deadlines: Joint Status Report due by 8/16/2018. (hmc) (Entered: 07/25/2018)
08/16/2018	<u>10</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by NATIONAL STUDENT LEGAL DEFENSE NETWORK. (McGrath, Daniel) (Entered: 08/16/2018)
08/16/2018		MINUTE ORDER. Upon consideration of the parties' <u>10</u> Joint Status Report, it is hereby ORDERED that the parties shall meet and confer and file a Joint Status Report proposing a schedule for proceeding in this matter, on or before September 18, 2018. The schedule should address, among other things, the status of Plaintiff's FOIA request, the anticipated number of documents responsive to Plaintiff's FOIA request, the anticipated date(s) for release of the documents requested by Plaintiff, whether a motion for an Open America stay is likely in this case, whether a Vaughn index will be required in this case, and a briefing schedule for dispositive motions, if required. Signed by Judge Trevor N. McFadden on 8/16/2018. (lctnm2) (Entered: 08/16/2018)
08/17/2018		Set/Reset Deadlines: Joint Status Report due by 9/18/2018. (hmc) (Entered: 08/17/2018)
09/18/2018	<u>11</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by NATIONAL STUDENT LEGAL DEFENSE NETWORK. (McGrath, Daniel) (Entered: 09/18/2018)

09/19/2018		MINUTE ORDER. Upon consideration of the parties' <u>11</u> Joint Status Report, the parties are hereby ORDERED to file a further Joint Status Report on or before October 25, 2018. The report should propose a schedule for proceeding in this matter, and discuss the Joint Status Report topics mentioned in prior Minute Orders. SO ORDERED. Signed by Judge Trevor N. McFadden on 9/19/2018. (lctnm2) (Entered: 09/19/2018)
09/19/2018		Set/Reset Deadlines: Joint Status Report due by 10/25/2018. (hmc) (Entered: 09/19/2018)
10/25/2018	<u>12</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by NATIONAL STUDENT LEGAL DEFENSE NETWORK. (McGrath, Daniel) (Entered: 10/25/2018)
10/29/2018		MINUTE ORDER. Upon consideration of the parties' <u>12</u> Joint Status Report, it is hereby ordered that the parties shall file another Joint Status Report on or before October 31, 2018, informing the Court of the status of Defendant's search results as well as the status of the parties' negotiations in light of those results. Signed by Judge Trevor N. McFadden on 10/29/2018. (lctnm2) (Entered: 10/29/2018)
10/29/2018		Set/Reset Deadlines: Joint Status Report due by 10/31/2018. (hmc) (Entered: 10/29/2018)
10/31/2018	<u>13</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by NATIONAL STUDENT LEGAL DEFENSE NETWORK. (McGrath, Daniel) (Entered: 10/31/2018)
11/01/2018		MINUTE ORDER. Upon consideration of the parties' <u>13</u> Joint Status Report, it is hereby ordered that the parties shall file a further Joint Status Report on or before November 30, 2018, informing the Court of the parties' agreed-upon production schedule. If by November 30, 2018, the parties have not reached an agreement regarding a production schedule, the report should inform the Court of each party's proposed schedule. Signed by Judge Trevor N. McFadden on 11/1/2018. (lctnm2, ) (Entered: 11/01/2018)
11/02/2018		Set/Reset Deadlines: Joint Status Report due by 11/30/2018. (hmc) (Entered: 11/02/2018)
11/30/2018	<u>14</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Text of Proposed Order)(Johnson, Wyneva) (Entered: 11/30/2018)
11/30/2018	<u>15</u>	NOTICE of Proposed Order <i>Plaintiff's Proposed Order</i> by NATIONAL STUDENT LEGAL DEFENSE NETWORK re <u>14</u> Status Report (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Text of Proposed Order Plaintiff's Proposed Order)(McGrath, Daniel) (Entered: 11/30/2018)
12/04/2018		MINUTE ORDER. Upon consideration of the parties' <u>14</u> Joint Status Report, it is hereby ordered that they shall appear for a status hearing on December 19, 2018, at 10 am in Courtroom 2 before Judge Trevor McFadden. Signed by Judge Trevor N. McFadden on 12/4/2018. (lctnm2) (Entered: 12/04/2018)
12/04/2018		Set/Reset Hearings: Status Conference set for 12/19/2018 at 10:00 AM in Courtroom 2 before Judge Trevor N. McFadden. (hmc) (Entered: 12/04/2018)
12/14/2018	<u>16</u>	MOTION for Extension of Time to <i>Continue December 19, 2018 Status Conference to a Later Date</i> , by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Text of Proposed Order)(Johnson, Wyneva) (Entered: 12/14/2018)
12/14/2018	<u>17</u>	RESPONSE re <u>16</u> MOTION for Extension of Time to <i>Continue December 19, 2018 Status Conference to a Later Date</i> , filed by NATIONAL STUDENT LEGAL DEFENSE NETWORK. (McGrath, Daniel) (Entered: 12/14/2018)